

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 95-127 are now pending in this application, claims 29-94, 128 and 129 having been cancelled by the present Amendment. Claims 29-94, 128 and 129 were rejected. Claims 95-127 are allowed.

In view of the indication that claims 95-127 are allowable, the cancellation of rejected claims 29-94, 128 and 129 places this application in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 29-35, 44-68, 77-94 and 128 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by **Bentley et al.**, “Conceptual Evolutionary Design by a Genetic Algorithm”, 1996 (previously cited). Claims 36 and 69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Jones et al.**, “Development and Validation of a Genetic Algorithm for Flexible Docking”, 1997. Claims 37 and 70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Renner**, “Geometric Optimization with Genetic Algorithms”, 1998. Claims 38-40 and 71-73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Faccenda et al.**, “A Combined Simulation/Optimization Approach to Process Plant Design,” 1992. Claims 41, 42, 74 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Bedwell et al.**, “Artificial Evolution of Algebraic Surfaces,” 1999. Claims 43 and 76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Rowland**

et al. "Evolutionary Co-operative Design Between Human and Computer: Implementation of the 'The Genetic Sculpture Park'.", 2000. Claim 129 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Bentley et al.** in view of **Miller** (USP 3,880,499).

In view of the cancellation of claims 29-94, 128 and 129, it is submitted that the rejections in view of the prior art are no longer relevant.

CONCLUSION

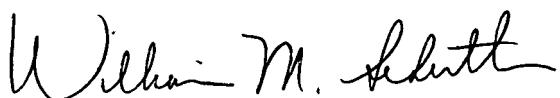
In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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